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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

REPORT NO.

INFORMATION REPORT

CD NO.

COUNTRY Czechoslovakia

DATE DISTR. 8 March 1951 25X1A

SUBJECT Clement Gottwald Ironworks in
Moravská Ostrava-Vitkovice

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SUPPLEMENT TO
REPORT NO.

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1. A new section of the Vitkovice Ironworks was being built about 1 km east of the Ostravica River and 1.5 km south of the Lucina River in the Kunický-Kunice area near Moravská Ostrava-Vitkovice. (1) The entire construction site covered an area of about 2,000x750 meters. According to source, the new ironworks was to be larger than the existing Vitkovice Ironworks. The construction of three blast furnaces was planned. (2) In the winter of 1949 to 1950 construction work was begun on the new plant, which was to consist entirely of steel girder and reinforced concrete structures. Work was done in three shifts around the clock. A total of 7,000 workers was said to be employed. The construction was still in its initial stage in August 1950. (3)

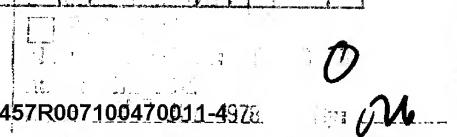
2. In the old part of the Vitkovice Ironworks, the blast furnace department consisted of two sections with a total of five blast furnaces. Furnaces I, IV, and V were to the south in Vitkovice, furnaces II and III were to the north in Sofina (Sofien Ironworks). The weekly production was about 12,000 tons of pig iron in August 1949. Other departments of the plant were the steelworks, both the old and the new sections, the rolling mill, the tube rolling mill, the bridge construction department, the boiler construction department, the machine factory, the crucible steel plant (Gusstahlfabrik), and the iron foundry. (4)

3. The technical designing department drew up blueprints for the projected renovation of the machine installation of the tube rolling mill, as well as for the projected modernization of the blast furnace department and of the production method by the injection of oxygen. Machinery for the tube rolling mill was to be delivered by two American firms.

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For the second project a plant-owned oxygen department was allegedly to be established. The equipment was to be delivered by the Stacey-Dresser Engineering Firm in Cleveland. Projects worked out for foreign countries included the expansion of the Koszciuszko Coking Plant in Poland as well as the expansion and equipment of a large Soviet power plant.

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Comments.

- (1) For location of this new section, see map in Annex 1.
- (2) See Annex 2 for list of installations and sketch map of the new section of the Vitkovice Ironworks. Only two blast furnaces are indicated on the map. The sketch is a diagrammatic drawing. Building sizes do not correspond to the figures indicated in the legend. The map was provided by the first source.
- (3) According to the Five-Year-Plan the Czechoslovakian pig iron production is scheduled to be increased from 1.5 million tons in 1948 to 2.7 million tons in 1953. During the same period ingot steel production is scheduled to increase from 2.4 million tons to 3.5 million tons and the output of rolled products from 1.7 million tons to 2.5 million tons. The available capacity cannot meet such an increase of production. A large-scale expansion of the existing installations will therefore be required. The largest investments are to be made in the Moravská Ostrava-Vitkovice area where a modern steel and ironworks is to be erected. This installation, called "New Vitkovice", is to start production by 1953. For reference see also [redacted]
- As of 1950 the annual capacity of the Vitkovice Ironworks, with five blast furnaces working, amounted to 650,000 tons of pig iron, 850,000 tons of open-hearth steel, 35,000 tons of electric steel and 770,000 tons of rolled products.
- (4) Another source described the tube rolling mill as an antiquated installation allegedly shut down even in 1948. A new tube rolling mill with an annual capacity of 250,000 tons was planned. No data are available on the progress of the new installation. For a map of the old Vitkovice Ironworks and the nearby industrial installations, see Annex 3. This map was provided in essence by the third source. Source failed to specify which installations on the map belonged to the Vitkovice Ironworks, but it seems clear that at least items 1, 4-8, 10, 11, and probably also 3, 12, 14, 15, and 17 belonged to the Vitkovice Ironworks. Annex 4 contains a detailed sketch of the ironworks' rolling mill and a list indicating the capacity of the various installations in the rolling mill. [redacted] source provided this information. In the sketch the production of the various rolling trains is indicated by the following symbols:

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 xx mm - round bars with a diameter of xx mm.

 xx - xo mm - rectangular rods; one side of the rectangle is xx mm long, and the other is xo mm long.

L xx - L-beams, each of whose sides is xx mm long.

H xx - H-beams with sides xx mm in length.

H xx mm wide - H-beams whose center connecting piece is xx mm long.

flat bars (slabs, etc.) xx mm - flat bars (slabs, etc.) xx mm wide.

 - rails.

The remaining symbols indicate the shape of the section iron. The figures presumably are all in millimeters. In the production figures attached to Annex 4, there seems to be some error in the figures for the intermediate and finishing rolling trains.

4 Annexes: 1 sketch on ditto and 3 blueprints.

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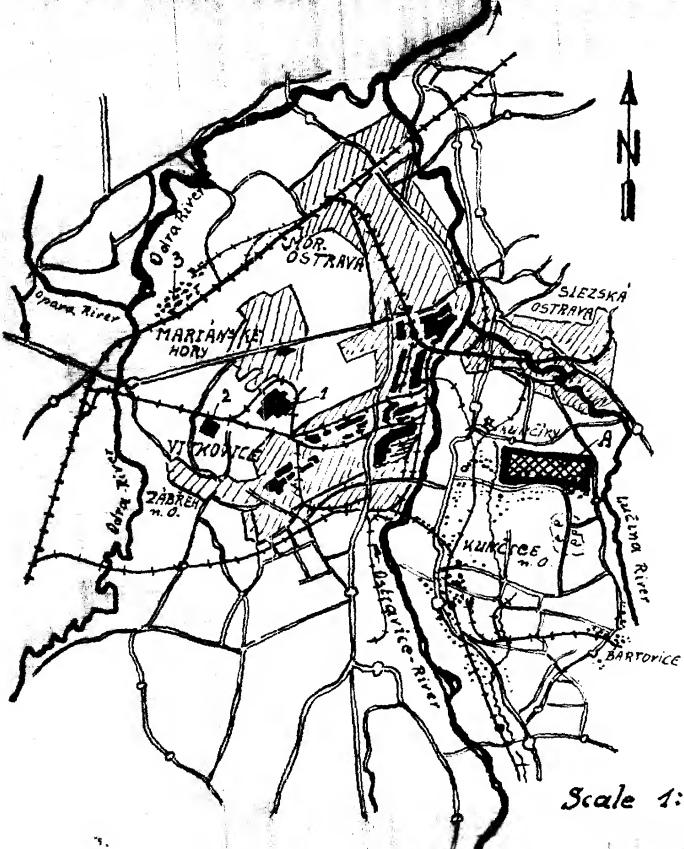
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Annex 1

MORAVSKA OSTRAVA, Industrial Plants.

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- 1 New Steelworks and Rolling of the VÍTKOVICE Ironwork
- 2 OSTRAVA Chemical Works, formerly Julius Rütgers P.
- 3 OSTRAVA-MARIÁNSKÉ HORY, M.

A Site of the New Construction Project of the Ironworks.

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Legend to Annex 2

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New Section of the Vitkovice Ironworks in Kuncice as of the End of July 1950

1. Workshop building under construction, 50x30x12 meters. The roof had not been put on.
2. Workshop building under construction, 50x30 meters.
3. Building project covering an area of 10x20 meters. Only foundation pillars had been sunk.
4. Single-story workshop building, almost completed, 20x30 meters.
5. Workshop building under construction, 20x30 meters, about 8 meters high at the time of observation.
6. Building project covering an area of 15x30 meters.
7. Workshop building under construction, 15x25 meters.
8. Ore sorting installation for blast furnaces, half finished and covering 10x25 meters.
9. Underground tunnel with two parallel sections for the transportation of coke and ore to the blast furnaces. The tunnel, 250 meters long, was 10 meters wide altogether. The ceiling was 300 mm thick and was reinforced at a point where tracks crossed the tunnel above-ground. The tunnel was to be completed by the end of November 1950.
10. Ore bunker for the blast furnaces, 20x250 meters, almost 20 meters high, of which 6 meters were underground and 14 meters above ground. The bunker was scheduled to be completed by November 1950.
11. Blast furnaces. In July only the steel framework had been erected, and it had not yet been lined with fireclay. The furnaces, 67 meters high, were to be completed in the late spring of 1951.
12. Cowpers' blast heating apparatuses, three of which were under construction.
13. Workshop building, 25x40x12 meters. Source heard this object referred to as "Blockwerk" (blooming mill?).
14. Thermal power plant under construction, measuring 25x30x25 meters and scheduled to be completed after 1950.
15. Workshop building under construction, 30x60 meters.
16. Workshop building, almost completed, 30x60x15 meters.
17. Area being surveyed for additional building projects.
18. Smokestack under construction.
19. Underground canal, whose use is unknown.
20. One-story wooden buildings for workmen.
21. Messhall building.
23. and 24. One-story wooden buildings housing offices of the construction management.

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25. and 26. Civilian residential buildings being pulled down.
27. Wooden shed for the narrow-gauge locomotive.
28. One-story wooden building housing the offices of the construction management.
29. Stone building housing workmen.
30. Brick storehouse for building machines.
31. Messhall.
32. and 33. Civilian residential buildings being pulled down.
- 34, 35, 36. One-story wooden buildings of the construction management.
37. Completed plate rolling mill, a reinforced concrete structure, 15x100 meters, which was to be put into operation soon after July 1950.
38. and 39. One-story wooden buildings housing workmen.
40. A small, old factory which was in use and was not to be demolished.
Source does not remember its designation.
41. Kuncice railroad station.

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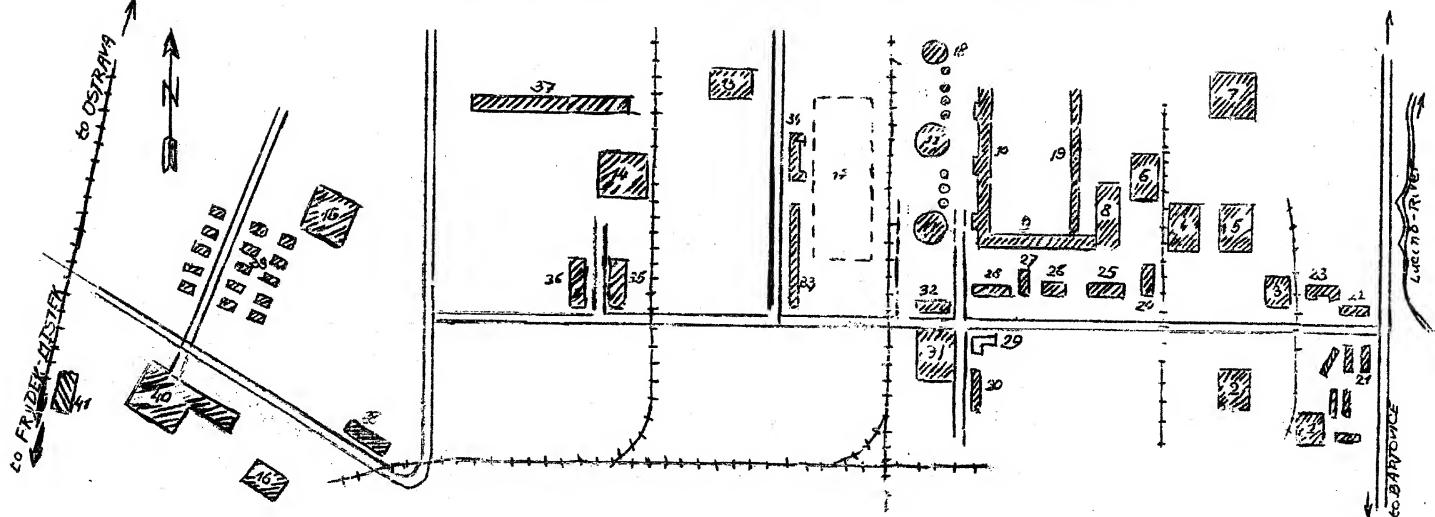
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Annex 2

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Annex 2

New Section of the Vítkovice Ironworks in Kuncice as of the End of July 1950.



Legend: See attached list.

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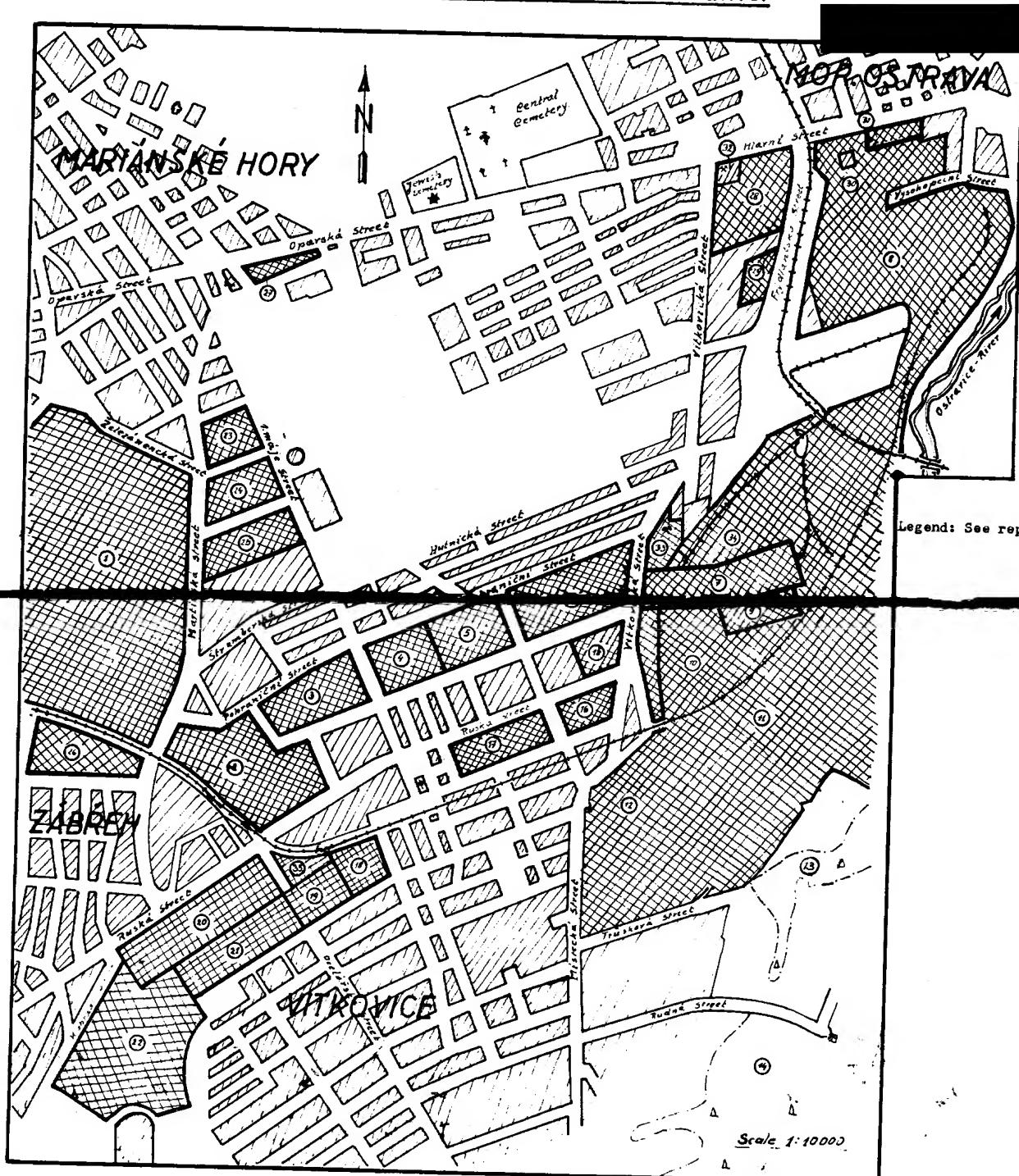
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Legend to Annex 3

1. New rolling mill and steel works. The old steel works is southwest of here.
2. Shell factory.
3. Construction office, building material.
4. Boiler factory.
5. Bridge construction.
6. Tube rolling mill.
7. New iron works containing three blast furnaces.
8. Sofien Iron Works containing two blast furnaces.
9. Copper works.
10. Machine factory.
11. Iron foundry.
12. Central depot.
13. Slag dumps.
14. Ore storage place.
15. Management.
16. Power plant.
17. Plant hospital.
18. Pressing works
19. Hammer mill.
20. Crucible steel plant (Gusstahlfabrik)
21. Fireclay factory.
22. New plant manufacturing fittings.
23. Depot.
24. Phosphate mills.
25. Depot.
26. Cement factory.
27. "Union" nonferrous metal foundry.
28. Ostrava Machine Factory and Foundry, formerly Elbertzhagen & Glassner plant.
29. Cable factory.
30. Coal washing plant, Karolina coking plant, power plant.
31. Chemical factory.
32. Salomon Coal Mine.
33. Lauschmann Coal Mine.
34. Coking plant.
35. Plant manufacturing fittings.

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MORAVSKA OSTRAVA, Industrial Plants. Annex 3

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Annex 4

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~~CONFIDENTIAL~~Capacity of the Vitkovice Ironworks.

Following capacity figures are computed on the basis of the monthly maximum production counting Sundays but not holidays as workdays.

Roughed and rolled products	Rolled products	Note
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<u>Blooming mill train</u>	54,700 tons	1,250 tons
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Plate mill trains:

armor plate rolling train) joint	9,150 tons
3.2 two-high plate rolling train) operation	alone
		8,450 "
		8,300 "
2.3 three-high medium plate rolling train		3,750 "
1.8 three-high sheet rolling train		2,150 "
1.75 two-high sheet rolling train		1,000 "
 <u>Total of plate mill trains</u>		 15,350 tons

Shape-rolling mill trains:

billet mill train) joint	25,600 tons
)	alone
rail mill trains) operation	15,600 tons
		15,400 "
Breaking-down mill train		6,950 tons
Large universal train I		8,650 "
 <u>Total of shape-rolling mill trains</u>		 31,200 tons

Intermediate and finishing rolling trains:

450 rolling train		6,350 tons
330 " "		7,400 "
280 " "		5,100 "
hoop band iron train I		3,650
small universal train II)	3,500 tons alone
hoop band iron train II)	
a. sheet bars and flat bars)	7,300 " "
b. hoop iron)	5,800 " "

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<u>Total of intermediate and finishing</u>	<u>rolling trains</u>	<u>22,500 tons</u>
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<u>Total of rolling mill production</u>	<u>70,300 tons</u>
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MORAVSKÁ OSTRAVA - VITKOVICE, Rolling Mill.

Annex 4

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